

When Oregonians first put their heads together to determine the fate of Mt. Hood, they came up with a lot of ideas. Farmers wanted to cultivate land for growing cherries and pears. Native Americans wanted to preserve their natural heritage, and hikers wanted to keep their trees and trails pristine. And why not? This Oregon landmark has something for everyone to enjoy.

That's why this week I was proud that the House Natural Resources Subcommittee had a hearing on my comprehensive legislation for protecting and preserving Mt. Hood's natural resources. This new bill, HR 6290, the Lewis and Clark Mt. Hood Wilderness Act, will designate more than 130,000 acres as wilderness, more than 30,000 acres as national recreation areas, and up to 80 miles as wild and scenic rivers. What's more, it will uphold Native American treaty rights, and address transportation and recreation challenges.

There is no question but that Mt. Hood is an icon that must be preserved for our children, and our children's children. I stand firm in my commitment to moving forward with this legislation. And I will fight to make sure that the dreams so many of us have for this mountain, are realized. Click here to read more about this legislation.

